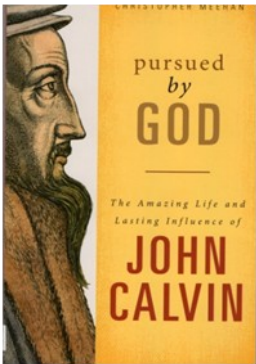


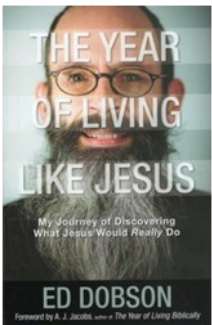
## Library Notes

What do these two books have in common (besides the obvious beard)?



**Pursued by God by Chris Meehan**- is a biography written by a Catholic about one of the great Reformers of the Protestant church. I had wanted to read this book for almost a year after seeing it advertised in the Banner in honor of John Calvin's 500<sup>th</sup> birthday, so I was glad to find it in our church library. I learned things I didn't know before. For instance, that the ban on card playing and dancing can be traced back to Calvin's attempt to clean up the people's morals in Geneva.

When I was child I thought celebrating Reformation Day was a ploy to make sure we didn't enjoy Halloween too much. After reading the historical fiction, The Storm by Rex Grant, another book about Martin Luther (also in our church library), I learned to appreciate the struggle and sacrifice that the Reformers endured while challenging the powerful Catholic Church. This biography of John Calvin was another reminder of that sacrifice. When was the last time you heard of someone burned at the stake for being a heretic?

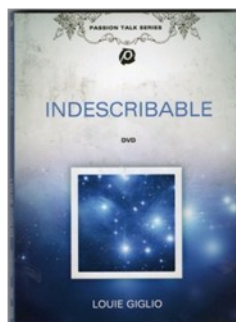


**The Year of Living Like Jesus by Ed Dobson** - a book written by a Protestant, living a year like a Jew who embraces some tenets of Catholicism along the way. I hadn't intended to read this book, since I had only checked it out for someone else, but I quickly got into it and enjoyed it very much. Part of his exploration during the year of living like Jesus was forming prayer habits such as saying the Rosary. I'm pretty sure Jesus never said the Rosary while living on earth. After reading about John Calvin, I doubt he would have approved, either. But it was interesting to hear Dobson's explanation of how saying the rosary benefited his prayer life. I also enjoyed reading about other ways he embraced the Jewish culture.

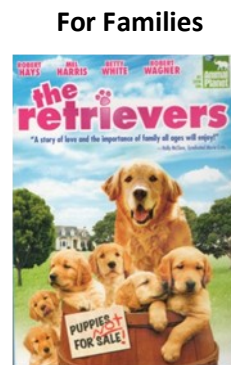
## NEW DVD'S



**Faith Like Potatoes**  
Based on the Inspiring True  
Of a Farmer who Found Faith



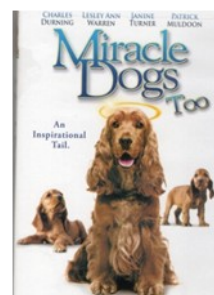
**INDESCRIBABLE**  
The beauty of the Heavens



**For Families**



**"Another Perfect Stranger"**  
The sequel to the "Perfect  
Stranger"



# THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR BEN

---

Perhaps you're itching for spring as I am starting to itch for it. Mid-February usually brings that about. We get blessed with a little more sunshine, we are start to tire of the cold and snow, and down in Florida spring training is beginning. Well, even as I itch for spring, I am greatly encouraged by the life that continues to burst forth even in the cold of winter. We've got some exciting things happening here at Comstock. Here are some highlights I'm thinking about.

1. **Profession of Faith**—This Sunday morning, we'll witness the public profession of faith of Tyler Triemstra. It has been a great encouragement to guide him through this important step in his life. As Tyler has professed, God has been so faithful to him in his life and he now desires to formally declare his trust in Jesus as his Lord and Savior. As you witness him professing his faith, be reminded of God's faithfulness to you and what response that calls for.

A couple weeks ago I was invited by Mark and Kim Terpstra to speak about profession of faith to the middle schoolers (Pulse group). What a joy it was to engage those youth on this important step and to encourage them in what it means to make profession of faith. Tyler was also able to give testimony to his peers about what it is about. Continue to pray for all our youth as they consider what it means to be children of God.

2. **New Members**—A couple of weeks ago, we had the joy of welcoming Lauri Meier and her son Tyler into our fellowship. What a joy it is to see people come here and be enfolded by this community. It is no small thing when you take the time to introduce yourself and make someone feel welcome here as a valued person. Lauri testified to that friendliness as she has found a home here for Tyler and herself. We also are in process of welcoming more new members into our fellowship, which is a great joy.

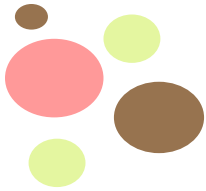
I encourage us all to maintain this welcoming atmosphere. Remember, we are first of all not here for ourselves, but for God's glory and for showing others his love. So, don't forget to put on those nametags to make meeting folks easier. Don't forget to fill in that welcome pad and introduce yourself to someone you might not know. And let us not be afraid to go that next step as well, to open our lives, our homes, our dinner tables, and our genuine love to those new in our community.

3. **New Faces**—On a similar topic, don't miss the beautiful "new faces" display that Esther Brower put together. We hope to keep updating this board so we can all get to know one another in a closer way. And now that you know more about some of the newer folks, don't fail to let them know a bit about yourselves.
4. **Renewed Vision**—I am greatly encouraged by the spiritual growth that is happening. Hearing how people are growing through the various Bible studies, sermons, personal devotions, and through serving gives me confidence that the Spirit is active in this place. Also, as the Vision Team has visited the various teams, I sense a rejuvenated desire to serve God well and be prepared for what God has in store.

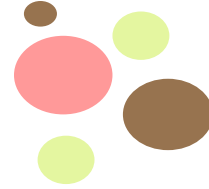
I pray you see these signs of life as well and that you have a part in them. We pray every week at Power in Prayer (Thursday afternoon prayer group that is open to all) that our eyes would be open to see what God is doing here at Comstock. He is doing great things. This is not to say that we don't have challenges, but even amidst challenges we move forward in confidence and hope in what God has planned for us. We must continue to fix our eyes on Jesus.

If you are sensing the need to be more greatly involved in serving here, let me know. There are many different ways that you can serve. The thing about the Christian life is we miss out when we are not serving in some way. Don't miss out!

Pastor Ben



# Family Supper



**Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**

Join us for dinner here at church followed by a game of Family Feud and a Silent Auction. All proceeds will go toward the Hulst family adoption expenses. Please consider what you might like to donate to the Auction. Visit the table In back of church for more details.

---

## **MARCH BOOSTER FUNDRAISER**

Taste, Looks, Experience

Back by popular demand the One and Only "Butter Braid Pastry"

22 oz. Frozen Butter Braids \$11.00 14-16" after baked  
Apple-Cinnamon-Cherry-Cream Cheese-Raspberry-Blueberry-Bavarian Crème

22 oz. Frozen Caramel Rolls \$11.00 fills 8x8x2 pan  
Rich gooey glaze

Braids will go on sale March 1<sup>st</sup> thru March 14<sup>th</sup>

Pastries will be available for pick up March 28<sup>th</sup>

Orders will be for 2 weeks so be sure to fill your freezers

Order as groups or individuals, forms will be in your mail boxes, extra sheets available on table in sanctuary.

Tell all your family, friends and neighbors!

Thank you for your support for Christian Education.

Dear Church family:

from Seth Brower

I have been blessed with an amazing opportunity to take a trip to **Africa** this summer! Many doors have been opened to me to make this trip possible. After prayer, God has placed it on my heart to join the group from Calvin Christian High School. In the 7 years Calvin Chr. High has been doing this trip, this is the first year they have opened it up to someone from another school. I see God's hand in making this happen, as plans quickly flew into place literally a week and half before the group tickets were purchased. The group will be leaving June 12 and will return June 24.

There are several purposes and goals for the trip. The most fundamental is the desire to engage another culture and appreciate the diversity of God's world. The trip is educational, relational, spiritual, as well as exciting, meaningful and inspirational. It will touch our minds and our hearts. "Students not only are the face of God to the Kenyans they interact with, they see the face of God in them. They realize how big the church of Jesus Christ is."

Let me share a few things our group will be engaged in:

1. Learning about the impact and work of the CRWRC in Kenya and Uganda
2. Travel to the dump in Nairobi and visit with children there
3. Visit the Kibera Slums
4. Visit Wareng Christian High School in Eldoret and spend time in classes.( Each of the 9 students on the trip will be presenting a laptop computer to the school)
5. Enjoy dinners in students homes and delighting in the cultural education that provides
6. Worship with Kenya and Ugandan students in their churches
7. Tour the National Park at Lake Nakuru
8. Spend time with missionaries in Soroti, Uganda and encourage them in their mission
9. Visit and dialogue with a survivor of the Lord's Resistance Army
10. Assist in agricultural projects of the CRWRC in Soroti
11. Spend time in schools for the blind
12. Plant orange trees as part of an interaction with blind farmers in Soroti
13. Raft the Nile
14. Dinner in Kampala with the CRWRC staff and appreciate their work
15. Spread the good news about God's work in Africa as well as how our hearts were opened to service opportunities there as well as here in the United States

Well, if you took the time to read this, you have a good idea of what is ahead for me. I would appreciate any support you could give me, both in prayer and financially.

Any donations can be made out to "Africa Fund"- with Seth Brower in the memo line. All donations are tax deductible and need to be made by May 1. You will receive a receipt from Calvin Christian High School.

Expect a summary when I return!

Yours in Christ, Seth

## Council Note Highlights from February 16 meeting

- Tyler Triemstra professed his faith in Jesus Christ to the elders. Profession of faith will be February 28, 2010.
  - After 15 years Rich Post resigned from the Fellowship team.
  - First Impressions - a motion was made and supported to approve \$1,000.00 from the special opportunities/memorial fund for the creation of a new photo directory.
  - Howard Nash submitted his resignation as elder of Comstock CRC.
  - Discussed updating our safe church policy
  - Classical church visitors will be here at the next council meeting on March 16, 2010.
- 



Alternatives Pregnancy Care Center's 20th Annual Auction and Spaghetti Dinner Friday, March 5, Lighthouse Community Church,. Doors open at 5:00. Supervised children's area with bounce house. More info at [www.pregnancychoices.com](http://www.pregnancychoices.com)

-----

Kalamazoo Christian Schools will hold Kindergarten Orientation on Friday, March 19, 2010 at Kalamazoo Christian Elementary, 3800 S. 12th Street. For information on orientation call Kalamazoo Christian Elementary School at 544-2332. For enrollment information call Kalamazoo Christian School Association, 381-2044.

-----

Kalamazoo Christian High School (2121 Stadium Dr.) is hosting 8th Grade Parent and Student Night, Tuesday, March 9, 7 PM in the high school gym. This will be an opportunity to ask questions and find out more about KCSA, the classes offered, and extra curricular activities. Please call 381-2250 if you would like more information.

-----



Kalamazoo Christian School Association presents "The Howard Hill Hustle"

IT IS TIME TO REGISTER for "The Howard Hill Hustle." This 5K Run/Walk race and Kid's 1K Fun Run will be held on Saturday, May 15. This exciting new community event is an opportunity to support the Kalamazoo Christian Schools. Go to the race website at [howardhillhustle.kcsa.org](http://howardhillhustle.kcsa.org) and SIGN UP NOW. More detailed information and a training schedule can also be viewed on this site.



Here are some recipes that were given to Sandy (Smit) Bryce at her church bridal shower.

**recipe** Japanese Chicken Salad  
From Judy Joling Serves 2-4  
Cooking time \_\_\_\_\_ Preheat oven to \_\_\_\_\_

4 c. cooked chicken breast  
bite size pieces  
1 Head Iceberg Lettuce - torn into pieces  
3 Green Onions - chopped  
Rice Noodles  
2 T Poppy Seeds  
1 pkg Slivered almonds

Dressing:

$\frac{1}{2}$  c oil  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  c sugar  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  c vinegar  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  t pepper  
1 t salt

Combine  
and refrigerate  
ahead of time

Pour dressing  
over salad  
before serving

**recipe** TACO SALAD

From Tina Slager Serves 6-8  
Cooking time 15 min x 2 Preheat oven to \_\_\_\_\_

$1\frac{1}{2}$  # ground beef & one large diced onion  
One pkg Taco Seasoning. Brown beef + onion together & add  
the Taco seasoning according to package directions, then  
Chill.

About 15 min prior to serving, toss meat together with the follow:

1 head of lettuce broken into bite size pieces

1 can of black beans, rinsed

tomatoes: 1-2 average size, diced or Amount desired <sup>juiced</sup> "grape" tomatoes

2 c. Shredded Cheddar Cheese (Not finely shredded)

1 - 16oz bottle Catalina dressing

1 pkg Nacho Cheese tortilla chips, crushed.

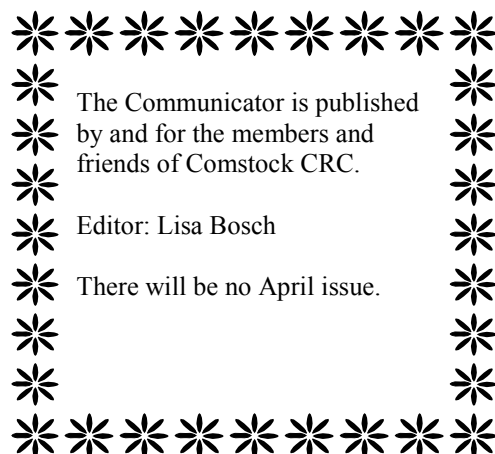
\* The chips can be served on the side for under or  
over the rest of the salad



- 1 Sandra (Smit) Bryce
- 2 Allison Bosch
- 3 Julie Smit
- 4 Karen Tiesman
- 5 Darlene Cramer
- MaryLee Gosnell
- 8 Judy Joling
- 10 Braden Smit
- 10 Paige Amos
- 15 Will DenHartigh
- 24 Val Denton
- 25 Rein VanOosterum
- 28 Maggie Amos
- 29 Wilma Bauman



3/12/88 Roger & Chris Selles



The Communicator is published  
by and for the members and  
friends of Comstock CRC.

Editor: Lisa Bosch

There will be no April issue.

## MARCH SCHEDULES

### NURSERY

<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>
3/7 Leah Brower & Megan Nowak	Rachel Slager
3/14 Jim & Lisa Bosch Family	Courtney Bosch
3/21 Jack & Joanne Karsten Family	Karen Triemstra
3/28 Mike & Dawn Kersten Family	Joanne Smit

### OFFERINGS

<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>
3/7 Comstock Ministries/Christian Ed.	CRWRC
3/14 Comstock Ministries/Christian Ed.	Calvin Seminary
3/21 Comstock Ministries/Christian Ed.	Missions
3/28 Comstock Ministries/Christian Ed.	CRWRC Haitian Relief

### ACCOMPANISTS

<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>
3/7 Kay Triemstra	Joy Koning
3/14 Allison Webster	Deb Heystek
3/21 Kay Triemstra	Barb Hassing
3/28 Linda French	Barb Hassing

### LIBRARIANS

3/7	MaryLee Gosnell
3/14	MaryLee Gosnell
3/21	Thea McNeilage
3/28	Thea McNeilage

### WELCOME CENTER

3/7	Jim & Lisa Bosch
3/14	Dale & Deb Cramer
3/21	Walt & Muriel Cramer
3/28	Scott & Esther Brower

### GREETERS

AM - Dean & Val Denton
PM - Grace Slager & Tressa Smit

### COFFEE SERVER

Evelyn Izenbaard

### SONG SERVICE LEADERS

3/7	KCMS Ensemble
3/14	Mark Smit
3/21	Kelli Terpstra
3/28	Scott Brower

### TECH TEAM

3/7 & 28	Jim & Tina Slager
3/14	Mark & Matt Terpstra
3/21	Scott & Seth Brower

### USHERS

AM - Josh VanderLugt	PM - Eric Selles
VALET PARKING - Roger Selles	



# MARCH 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 7 PM - Elders & Deacons	3 6:30 PM - Cadets 7:00 PM - All GEMS swim night at WMU	4	5	6
7 5:00 PM - KCMS Ensemble	8	9	10 9:30 AM - Layette 7:00 PM - Vision Team	11	12 6:00 PM - Vision Team/Ministry Teams workshop	13 6:30 PM - The Pulse YPS fun night
14 <b>Daylight Savings Time Begins</b> 6:15 PM - YPS— Katelynn supper	15	16 7:00 PM - Council	17 6:30 PM - GEMS & Cadets	18 Fund Raiser for Hulst family	19	20 <b>Spring Begins</b>
21 6:15 PM - GWAN small group	22	23	24 8:30 AM - Fellowship Breakfast at Theo & Stacy's	25	26	27
28 <b>Palm Sunday</b> 6:15 PM - YPS — leaders supper	29	30 7:00 PM - Elders & Deacons	31 6:30 PM - GEMS & Cadets			